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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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EXAMINER

SHAMEEM, GOLAM M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1626

DATE MAILED: 09/30/2002 §

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/982,157

Applicant(s)

PERRAULT ET AL.

Examiner

Golam M M Shameem

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 September 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 1-58 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 1-16, 18, 19, 23-31 and 41-56 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 17, 20, 21, 32-40, 57 and 58 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) 22 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) 1-16, 18, 19, 23-31 and 41-56 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3, 5.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

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DETAILED ACTION

Status of Claims

Claims 1-58 are pending in the application. Claims 1-16, 18, 19, 23-31 and 41-56 are withdrawn from consideration by the Examiner under 37 C.F.R. 1.142 (b) as directed to non-elected subject matter.

Response to Election/Restriction

Applicant's election with traverse of Group IV, which includes claims 17, 20-22, 32-40 and 57-58 in paper No.7 filed September 16, 2002, is acknowledged. The traversal is on the ground(s) that each of the elected Group could be extended to other Group without imposing a serious burden on the Examiner. This argument is not persuasive because the products of groups I to VIII differ materially in structure and in element from each other and, are capable of supporting their own patents. The wide disparity among the groups requires that many divergent fields must be searched, including all classes and subclasses of U.S. and foreign patents as well as journals and publications. Also, the fields of search are not coextensive. Therefore a separate search considerations are involved, which would impose a burden if unrestricted.

Applicant's next arguments are based on MPEP section 803 and 803.2. However, 35 U.S.C. 121, statutory patent law, is the singular basis for the restriction. The 35 U.S.C. 121 makes clear that restriction may be required in certain applications and that the Director/Commissioner has the right to make such a determination. In addition, the applicant's nowhere present evidence to the contrary that they are claiming independent and distinct inventions.

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For these reasons, applicant's arguments are found unpersuasive and, since 35 U.S.C. 101 allows one patent per invention, the requirement for restriction in Paper No. 6 is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.

Applicants preserve their right to file a divisional on the non-elected subject matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 17, 20-21, 57 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gregory et al (US Pat No. 4,705,799) cited in IDS. Applicant claims an intermediate compound, wherein R¹ is an aryl group, optionally substituted, and R³ is alkyl, or a salt or hydrate thereof. Gregory et al (US Pat No. 4,705,799) also disclose the synthesis of many oxazolidinyl benzene derivatives, one of which anticipates the instantly claimed compound (STN International, CAPLUS database, page 5, document number, 110, 8198. See also Example 84, column 43 and column 8, lines 5-37 of '799).

Generic concept

Based on the election of species in paper No.7 filed September 16, 2002, for a method of preparing an (S)-oxazolidinone, the generic concept is as follows:

A compound of formula as shown in claim 32 wherein:

R¹ is optionally substituted aryl except hetero ring system or atom

R² is as claimed except hetero ring system or atom

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R³ is as claimed

As a result of the election and the corresponding generic concept identified, claims 1-16, 18, 19, 23-31 and 41-56 and the remaining subject matter of claims 32-40 and 58 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142 (b) as being drawn to non-elected inventions. The withdrawn subject matter of claims 1-16, 18, 19, 23-31 and 41-56 is properly restricted as it differs materially in structure and in element from the elected subject matter supra so as to be patentably distinct there from.

Claim Objections

Claims 22, 32-40 and 58 are objected to for containing non-elected subject matter. Claims drawn solely to the elected invention as identified supra, would appear allowable. The claims must be amended to exclude non-elected subject matter and within the limit of the elected compound and species and all the dependent claims also, must be amended to satisfy the restriction requirement and election of species in order to place the case in condition for allowance. Appropriate correction is required.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Golam Shameem, Ph.D. whose telephone number is (703) 305-0116. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:30 AM - 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Joseph McKane, can be reached at (703) 308-4537. The Unofficial fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-7921. The Official fax phone numbers for this Group are (703) 308-4556 or 305-3592.

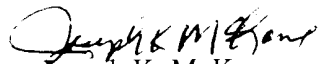
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When filing a FAX in Technology Center 1600, please indicate in the Header (upper right) "Official" for papers that are to be entered into the file, and "Unofficial" for draft documents and other communications with the PTO that are not for entry into the file of the application. This will expedite processing of your papers.

Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [joseph.mcKane@uspto.gov]. All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees will not communicate with applicant via Internet e-mail where sensitive data will be exchanged or where there exists a possibility that sensitive data could be identified unless there is of record an express waiver of the confidentiality requirements under 35 U.S.C. 122 by the applicant. See the Interim Internet Usage Policy published by the Patent and Trademark Office Official Gazette on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist, whose telephone number is (703) 308-1235.

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Joseph K. McKane
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September 26, 2002